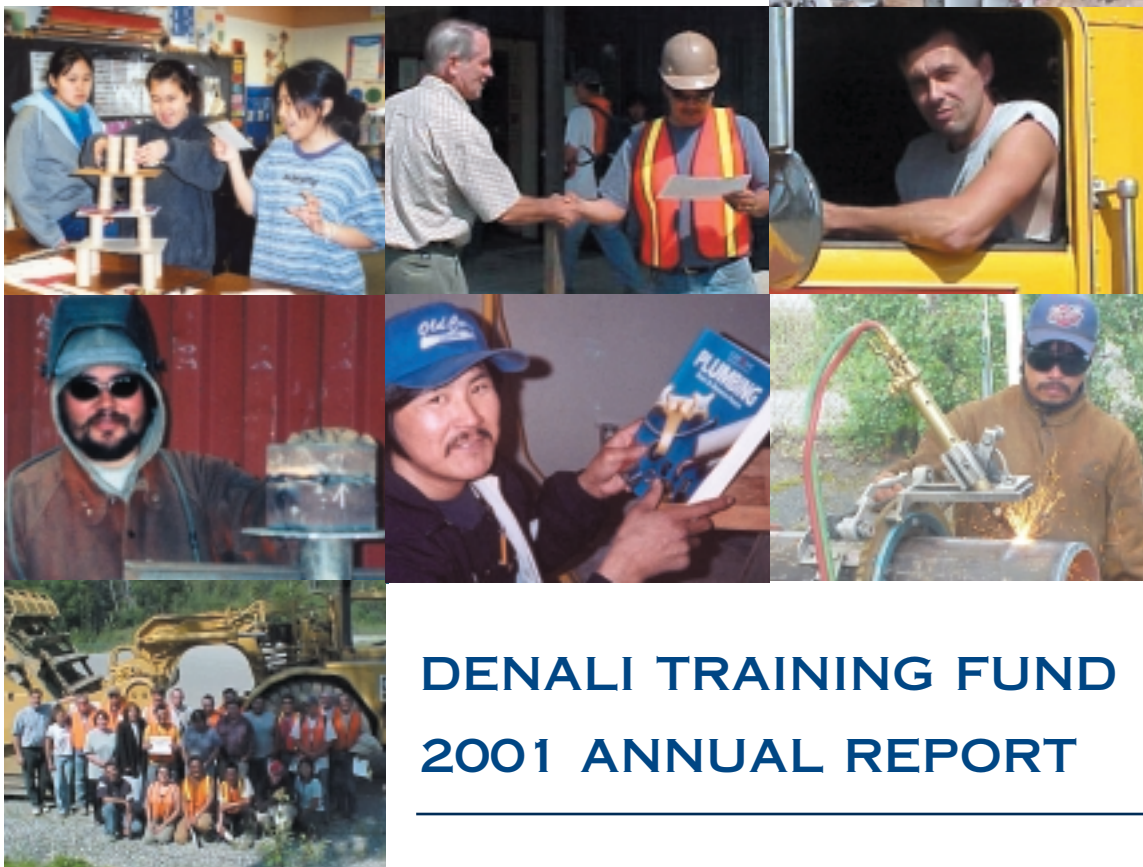


TRAINING FOR JOBS



DENALI TRAINING FUND 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

Funded by the
Denali Commission

Administered by the
State of Alaska
Department of Labor and Workforce Development

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Denali Training Fund Project Map

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development is pleased with the partnership that has been formed with the Denali Commission through creation of the Denali Training Fund. This concentrated effort to train rural Alaskans in construction, operations and maintenance careers is invaluable and helps to achieve the Denali Commission's primary mission of building sustainable public infrastructure in rural Alaska. Together we have created some of the most effective and successful training in Alaska's history. During the Denali Training Fund's first year, over three hundred people from rural Alaska communities have been trained for numerous construction, operations, and maintenance careers.

This positive outcome is a result of the strong partnerships that have been formed with Alaska Works Partnership, the Alaska Vocational Technical Center, Alaska Native Coalition on Employment and Training and the Associated General Contractors of Alaska. Because of the enthusiastic support and dedication of each of these partners in their respective areas, we have successfully created a system that provides training of local residents for long-term careers.

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development is dedicated to building a significant trained workforce in all of Alaska. With the additional funds and direction provided by the Denali Commission we will realize the goal of increasing the number of local residents trained to construct, operate and maintain the infrastructure in their communities, while correspondingly decreasing the importation of outside workers. With the assistance of the Denali Training Fund the Department is striving to create a substantial workforce within rural Alaska communities that will be able to bring any project to successful completion and ensure the long-term operations and maintenance of all public facilities.

Never before has such a directed effort been made to bring such specialized career path training and employment opportunities to rural Alaskans. Together we are making a difference and bettering the lives of rural residents.

Sincerely,



Ed Flanagan
Commissioner
Department of Labor and Workforce Development
State of Alaska

DENALI TRAINING FUND

"The Denali Training Fund is an important component of the Denali Commission's mission. Rural Alaskans are the untapped resource needed to achieve the mission and the Denali Training Fund has been an effective program in developing that resource."

Mano Frey

Denali Commission Training
Subcommittee Member

"The Denali Commission's success in rural Alaska could not be achieved without the contribution of the Denali Training Fund. The Denali Training Fund is an example of the Commission's innovative approach to development in rural Alaska. Without the Denali Training Fund the Commission would not be able to ensure the key element of sustainability to which it is committed."

Mark R. Hamilton

Denali Commission Training
Subcommittee Member

In the majority of remote rural communities in Alaska, unemployment often exceeds fifty percent, the per capita income is well below poverty levels, and job opportunities are very rare. A real source of income is in the seasonal construction work that occurs in each community. But when these jobs do become available, few residents have the skills or knowledge to become part of the hired workforce.

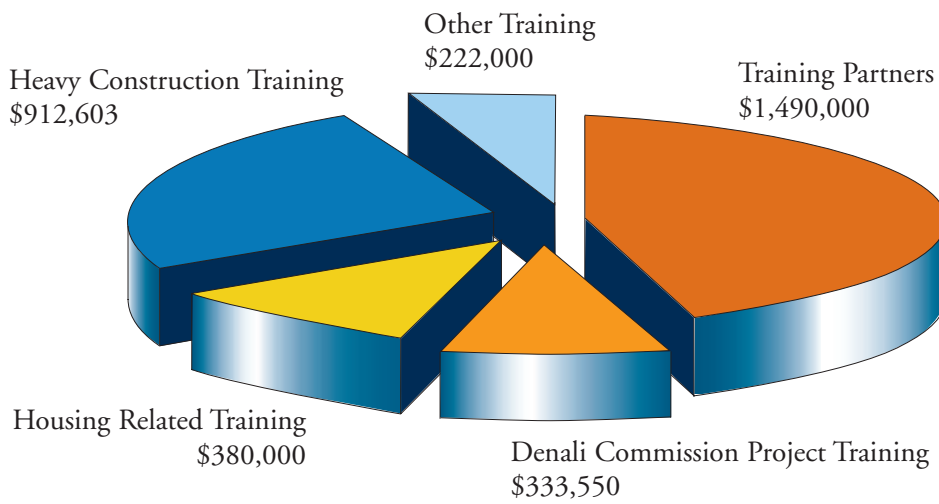
The Denali Training Fund was established by the Denali Commission specifically to ensure that local residents have the skills to become employed on the construction, operation, and maintenance of Denali Commission and other state and federally funded public infrastructure projects. To accomplish this mission the Denali Commission subcommittee that includes Mr. Mark Hamilton, President of the University of Alaska, Mr. Mano Frey, President of the the Alaska State AFL-CIO, and as staff Mr. Krag Johnsen, Alaska State Legislature's representative, selected the Department of Labor and Workforce Development in April 2000 to administer and direct the Denali Training Fund. Ten percent of the annual Denali Commission budget is dedicated to training. The Denali Training Fund received two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for Federal Fiscal Year 2000 and nearly three million dollars (\$2,994,300) for Federal Fiscal Year 2001.

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Employment Security Division, Alaska Workforce Investment Office, operates, selects, oversees, and administers the Denali Training Fund. On a quarterly basis applications of up to \$25,000 for training are solicited from non-profit and for-profit organizations and governments. Amounts greater than \$25,000 may be requested, but may not be funded unless the application is of exceptional merit and at the concurrence of the Denali Commission Training Subcommittee. A maximum of 5% is allowed for administrative or indirect costs on the project. Denali Training Funds are only provided to recipients who are in need of the training and have a direct link to employment as a result of the training. The Fund will pay for such costs as tuition, instructor wages, books, tools, clothing, incidental stipends, childcare, lodging and transportation. Subsidizing wages is currently not permitted.

Submitted applications are reviewed and evaluated by an application selection committee for funding, which gives priority to Denali Commission projects. The Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Grants Administrator, Ms. Gerry McDonagh then works closely with grantees to implement the proposed training.

To date the Denali Training Fund administers over three million dollars in funding that is directed either through the training partners, or Denali Commission projects, specialized training for housing projects, heavy construction, and other types of infrastructure development training. The training partners receive one and one half million in funding to assist in the Denali Commission training initiatives. Specific training in housing assists in the development of needed skills for building and maintaining appropriate, quality housing for northern climates. One million has been targeted towards heavy equipment construction training that is fundamental to all public infrastructure projects in the remote communities. All other funding is directed towards community projects that require a specifically trained workforce. The following graph illustrates the breakdown and distribution of funds.

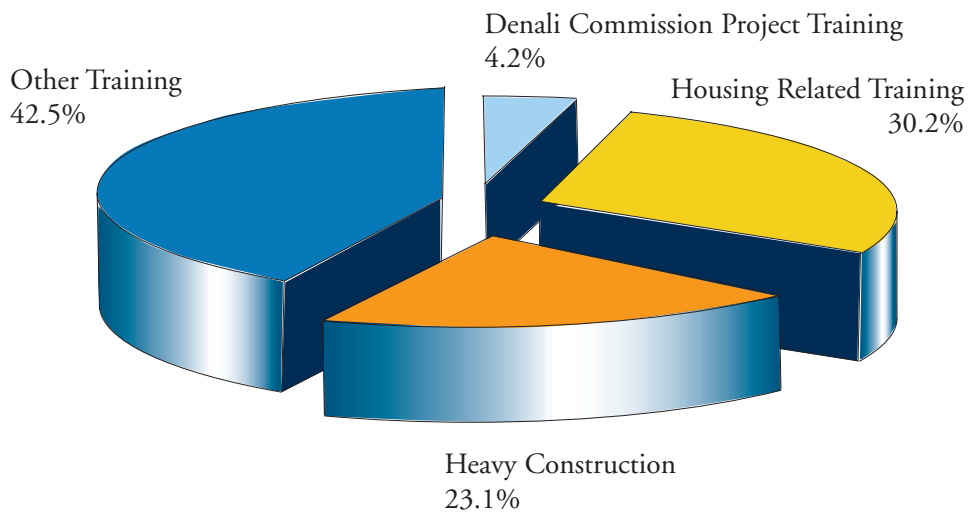
FUNDING BY TRAINING TYPE



Training Partners	\$1,490,000
DC Project Training	\$333,550
Housing Related Training	\$380,000
Heavy Construction Training	\$912,603
Other Training	\$222,000

Total Funding	\$3,338,153
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PARTICIPANTS BY TRAINING TYPE



DC Project Training	4.2%
Housing Related Training	30.2%
Heavy Construction Training	23.1%
Other Training	42.5%

TRAINING PARTNERS



ANCET Director Bonnie Jo Savland with Gregory Brower from Barrow who attended the 4 week Heavy Equipment Operators training.

"Our greatest assets are our human resources in rural Alaska. I'd like to see every rural resident given the opportunity to be trained and employed."

Bonnie Jo Savland, Director
ANCET



Students from the Lower Kuskokwim School District in Kipnuk working on their skyscraper during a **Build Up!** activity.

ALASKA NATIVE COALITION ON EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING (ANCET)
ANCET consists of the twelve regional Native Nonprofit Corporations and Metlakatla as a unified organization to further employment and training issues statewide and nationally. The focus of ANCET for the Denali Commission has been to implement a Regional Coordination Initiative that handles much of the recruitment for various training courses that are funded by the Denali Training Fund.

The major activity of ANCET to date has been development of a statewide recruitment effort in heavy equipment operator training through the Alaska Operating Engineers and training for Class A Commercial Drivers License (CDL) through the Center for Employment Education. ANCET is following the status of rural graduates to ensure that successful job placement occurs.

These recruitment efforts are a major success and directly benefit rural Alaskans in training and employment opportunities on both Denali Commission projects and other public construction projects. This is the first time in history that so many rural Alaskans have had the opportunity for direct construction training that will provide the skills necessary to participate in jobs in their communities.

ANCET is currently working on a statewide database to be used as an informational and planning tool for all ANCET members. The database will track the skilled workforce in each community.

ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF ALASKA

With Denali Commission funds Associated General Contractors developed and administered the Construction Career Pathways Initiative, placing construction curriculum in rural schools through **Build Up!** for elementary grades. To date **Build Up!** has been introduced to 27 different schools in 13 rural school districts for a total of 37 classrooms. **Build Up!** is a toolbox of learning with 25 hours of curriculum and many "hands-on" building activities that:

- connect classroom and community,
- showcase careers in construction,
- meet national standards and build skills in the areas of science, math, and language arts.

The National Center for Construction Education and Research's (NCCER) "Core Curriculum" is being used for secondary education and includes introductory levels of basic safety, construction math, hand tools, power tools, blueprints, and rigging.

A new curriculum for middle schools, **On Site!**, was just developed and will be implemented this coming year in several schools. This is another toolbox with multi-media materials geared for use in social studies and math classes with links to language, arts, and science. **On Site!** travels through time and brings students from the early construction in ancient Rome to construction today where environmental, economic, and social impacts are considered in new projects.

ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP

Alaska Works Partnership delivers apprenticeship outreach services in rural Alaska, and provides information to students and adults about jobs in the construction industry and opportunities to learn construction skills through registered apprenticeship. The Apprenticeship Outreach helps identify and recruit rural Alaskans who meet the prerequisites for entering apprenticeship and who have the potential to succeed in training and at work. The initiative acquaints individuals with craft apprenticeship programs in Alaska and the nature of working in the construction industry. The Alaska Works Partnership helps individuals complete apprentice program applications and follow-up services to support their entering apprenticeship.

The Alaska Works Partnership made 343 contacts during the past year at job fairs, career days, through advertising and community meetings. Of these contacts, 289 were referred to construction apprenticeship programs for jobs with rural Housing Authorities, or were provided assistance to meet the standards for applying to apprenticeship programs. Thirty successfully entered specific craft apprenticeship programs, and over sixty are registered as Building Maintenance Repair (BMR) apprentices with Alaska Works.

ALASKA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER (AVTEC)

AVTEC has implemented two programs that provide advanced skills certification. The first is the Building Maintenance Repairer Apprenticeship (BMR), which includes comprehensive training delivered in rural communities, in the basics of carpentry, plumbing, heating, and electric. A journeyman certificate is earned at the completion of 4,000 hours of hands-on and 144 hours of training per year for two years. To date, seventy-two participants have completed the first year of this training program.

The second initiative developed the curriculum for the Bulk Fuel Tank Farm Operator course, which trains the individual in the statutes, regulations, and requirements of the operation and maintenance of bulk fuel storage facilities in Alaska. The course also provides hands-on training with active tank farm components, including safe fuel transfer procedures and pipeline pressure testing. Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (Hazwopper) and Emergency Responder Training are also included.

"Apprenticeship is a time-honored method of gaining valuable job skills and life experiences that lead to economic self sufficiency. As expressed by an apprentice: 'It feels great to accomplish something I've worked hard for. I'm proud to know that thanks to my apprenticeship, I can support my family and feel good about what I do for a living.'"

John Hakala, State Director
Office of Apprenticeship Training
Employer and Labor Services, US DOL



Boiler Students from AVTEC Building Maintenance Repairer Apprenticeship program.



An electrical student working in the Building Maintenance Repairer Apprenticeship program.

TRAINING FOR DENALI COMMISSION PROJECTS



Joe Johnson, Kotlik Welder Trainee.

"Because of the commercial fishing disaster this year, we have had to find other ways to make money and support our families. This has been an excellent opportunity, in a new career, that will allow us to travel the state as certified welders to work on other bulk fuel projects in the surrounding communities or on the future gas line."

Joe Johnson, Kotlik Welder Trainee



Mike Hunt, Kotlik Welder Trainee.

The following training programs are directly related to Denali Commission funded projects. The focus of Denali Commission funding for the first 2 years has been in the energy sector, in order to reduce the high costs associated with energy in rural Alaska and to rectify severe health and safety hazards in bulk fuel storage facilities.

To reach this goal the Denali Training Fund is working with the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC) and the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) to build a skilled workforce to assist in the construction, operations and maintenance of these projects. When the workforce is local, long term operating and maintenance efforts are much more successful. The following projects have been funded to date:

Kotlik

This is a Denali Training Fund showcase project in which five workers will be trained on-site in the basic skills of arc-welding over the four-month duration of the Tank Farm Upgrade Project. This training will prepare them for welder certification, which can be used on this project and in many other locations, including the future natural gas pipeline. An instructor from the King Career Center will work with candidates to provide hands-on training, to qualify students to perform the welding requirements necessary to construct the tank farm. Certified journeymen welders will work with participants on a daily basis on specialized welding skills. Training will also include reading and understanding written materials, blueprints, welding procedures, and technical instructions. Certifications will be tested in Anchorage and Kotlik. The training curriculum will be modeled after the American Welding Society's Apprentice Welding Program. The goals of this program are to give participants a good foundation and certification of welding skills.



Welder Trainees at the Kotlik Tank Farm Upgrade project, Gerry McDonagh (Denali Training Fund), Dale Hunt, Joe Johnson, Richard Akaran, Mike Hunt, Richard Kamkoff, and Thomas Prince.

Kongiganak

Four residents were sent to the Testing Institute of Alaska, Inc. to be trained in structural and pipe welding. All received certification in structural welding and three in pipe welding. These individuals will be tapped for work on the Consolidated Bulk Fuel Tank Farm Facility project in the village and will be able to work in the future in nearby villages on similar projects.

Operation and Maintenance of Energy Projects

The Alaska Energy Authority is coordinating with AVTEC to provide ongoing training in the following four areas: Bulk Fuel Tank Operator, Utility Operator, Power Plant Operator and Advanced Power Plant Operator. To effectively maintain the Denali Commission investments in tank farms and power plants, local community residents will be trained in the long-term operation, and maintenance of these facilities. Thus communities that need trained personnel will have immediate access to these training positions as recruitment is open-cycle and ongoing.

"The Denali Training Fund provides an opportunity for local residents to be trained for employment in the surrounding area. Because of the Denali Training Fund, we now have four trained welders selected to work on the Kongiganak Bulk Fuel Tank Farm project scheduled to begin this fall. Once this project is completed, they will be able to work on other welding projects in the area."

Joseph Mute
Kongiganak Traditional Council
Housing Authority



A Koginanak welder in training at the Testing Institute of Alaska, Inc.



Four welding trainees from Kongiganak attending the Testing Institute of Alaska along with their instructor.



A Koginanak welder in training at the Testing Institute of Alaska, Inc.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR HOUSING PROJECTS

"The Denali Training Fund is providing a cure for local hire. Communities with construction projects that need training to put local people to work can get help. Those dollars bring training closer to home and deliver more effective training because they are project specific. Many people are working today on construction projects in their community because the Denali Training Fund works."

Mike Andrews, Director
Alaska Works Partnership



Residents from White Mountain and St. Michaels constructing manufactured homes at Point McKenzie.

Given the increase in population and severe shortage of housing in rural Alaska, a skilled and trained workforce is critical for building new homes and renovating existing homes. The Alaska Works Partnership (AWP) assists Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHE) take a more direct role over the construction and maintenance of housing and local hire by helping Housing Entities train a local workforce. The AWP makes Building Maintenance Repairer (BMR) apprenticeships available to training participants. While enrolled, BMR apprentices are able to complete their high school education, are provided support to attend classroom training, and are provided wages and benefits while learning on-the-job under mentors.

BMR apprentices can choose to complete 4,000 hours of on-the-job training and be certified Building Maintenance Technicians, or choose to step-up into available specific craft apprenticeship positions offered by Alaska's jointly administered apprenticeship programs. In addition, BMR apprentices must complete 150 hours of related classroom instruction each year to remain apprentices. The Alaska Works Partnership BMR apprenticeship program is registered with the U.S. Department of Labor and is endorsed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the core source for funding rural housing. The following projects highlight this effort:

White Mountain/St. Michaels Manufactured Homes

The White Mountain/St. Michaels project to manufacture thirteen homes is a result of a partnership between Alaska Works Partnership and the Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority, Kawerak, Inc., and Alaska's Building and Construction Trades Councils. Local residents were recruited and trained for constructing manufactured homes in cooperation with the general contractor, Alaska Manufacturing Contractors, Inc. Twenty-nine persons attended pre-employment Construction Occupational Safety and Health, Construction First Aid and Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) courses in the villages. The first crew of ten workers was then transported to the Pt. McKenzie manufacturing plant and took a course on construction math, measuring, installing steel stud framing, sub-floors, and metal roofing. A second crew of ten will travel to Pt. McKenzie to help complete the homes. BMR apprentices will receive various types of on-the-job training for all aspects of constructing homes. When the units are completed they will be transported by barge to the villages for installation by Alaska Manufacturing Contractors crews.

Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) Regional Housing Authority

Approximately thirty rural village residents will attend pre-employment training in Bethel for constructing thirty-one panelized homes destined for seven communities in the AVCP region. Forty more residents will receive pre-employment training to assist with the renovation of 270 homes in fourteen more communities in the region. The Housing Authority will employ all residents who successfully complete the pre-employment training. Alaska Works Partnership estimates that over forty trained residents will be registered as BMR apprentices. The Regional Housing Authority expects to provide over 200 seasonal construction jobs this fall and winter to complete the projects. Project partners are the regional Housing Authority, AVCP, the Western Alaska Building and Construction Trades Council and Alaska Works Partnership.

Buckland

ENTECH, a private company that specializes in the training of energy efficient and cold climate construction practices, collaborated with Buckland on a project. Five residents of the community took a full curriculum that included training in AKWarm, a computer program designed to model building performance under Alaska conditions; cold climate construction techniques; air-sealing and air-leakage; combustion safety testing; effective retrofit techniques; and assessment of the above processes. On-site visits to homes in the community that will receive Native American Housing and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) funds provided a perfect training ground for students to model, test, assess and install actual recommended measures in typical housing stock. All students will be employed in the tribal housing retrofit program. One participant scored so highly that he is being considered as a trainer for the Alaska Building Science Network.

Southwest Alaska Vocational Technical Center

Alaska Works Partnership, the Bristol Bay Housing Authority and the Western Alaska Building and Trades Council have partnered to train local residents for jobs and apprenticeship positions on the renovation of a King Salmon Air Force Base building into a Vocational Education Center. The skills are learned through classroom, hands-on and on-the job training. To start the job, thirty-one rural residents attended a 48 hour pre-employment session for Construction Orientation, Occupational Safety and Health, Tool Handling, First Aid and Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Twenty-four residents continued training and were certified in Asbestos Abatement and Lead Paint Hazards before going to work. Several residents were trained as part of the carpenter crew in steel stud framing at the project site. Future classes to be provided in King Salmon to assist in the construction are plumbing, electrical, drywall installation and finishing, painting, and floor covering.



BMR apprentice works at the Southwest Alaska Vocational Technical Center in King Salmon.



BMR Apprentices in OSHA training at King Salmon.



BMR Apprentice engaged in plumbing training at the Southwest Alaska Vocational Technical Center in King Salmon.

HEAVY CONSTRUCTION TRAINING



Curtis Hall congratulating a recent Heavy Equipment Operators Training graduate.

"The Denali Training Fund is a foundation for success and I believe the success lies in the individual who is taking the training. This training will give them the opportunity for construction careers that rural residents previously did not have available."

Curtis Hall, Administrator
Alaska Operating Engineers
Employers Training Trust

Because of the large number of projects requiring heavy equipment operators and persons skilled in all aspects of road and ground work, the Denali Training Fund is encouraging projects specifically designed to provide those desperately needed skills within the rural population. These training opportunities are available on an open and ongoing basis. Recruitment is coordinated through the Alaska Native Coalition on Employment and Training (ANCET) with the largest demand coming directly from the communities for specific training in the following areas:

Alaska Operating Engineers/ Employers Training Trust

To date twenty-four rural residents have participated in a four-week accelerated course to receive a certificate of completion in grade checking and in the operations of a variety of equipment, including wheel loaders, dozers, compacters, backhoes and trucks. Each class concentrated on the equipment most commonly used in the rural areas by private contractors. Participants were brought to Palmer where the training facility is located and housed in local hotels with meals and other costs provided. Graduates will be employed in their local communities on road, airport, foundation and other construction projects.

Piledrivers & Drivers Local 2520

Eight participants are currently being trained as welders in a combination of classroom instruction and hands-on experience using a shop setting with "mock-up" work conditions. The classes are 4 weeks, 8 hours per day for a total of 160 hours of training. Participants will obtain the required skills necessary for attainment of welding certifications. Those who complete the training will receive several welding certifications which comply with the requirements for certified welders with Associated General Contractors of Alaska, Piledrivers, Bridge, Dock Builders and Divers Local 2520 agreements. Participants will also receive updated certifications from American Red Cross First Aid and Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and will be qualified to work on projects such as docks and bridges.

Alaska Laborers Training Trust

Participants will be trained and certified in various types of training. The Alaska Laborers Training Trust offers training in Asbestos Abatement, Asphalt, Basic Grate, Building Maintenance, Concrete Repair, Drilling, General Construction, Hazardous Waste, Pile laying, Tunnel & Shaft Workers. Some training will take place in the local communities and other training will require participants to travel to Anchorage to the training facility where they will be housed with meals and other costs provided.

Center for Employment Education (CEE)

Most contractors in rural Alaska require workers to have a Commercial Drivers License (CDL) to work on major construction projects. Forty-six participants from around the state received their CDLs after completing accelerated driver training with the Center for Employment Education. To be accepted into the program the participant must have a valid drivers license for at least one year, a clean driving record, a physical examination and a drug test. The training covers all the knowledge and skills required for safely operating a tractor-trailer or dump truck for an entry-level driver. The program consists of twelve days training in: classroom instruction required to pass the Division of Motor Vehicles written exams, and hands-on experience covering general safety, vehicle safety, mechanical awareness, shifting and backing skills, and basic driving techniques for commercial vehicles. Proficient students continue perfecting driving skills on the road. This enables local residents to qualify for positions that have typically gone to non-local workers.

To ensure long-term employment opportunities for rural participants, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development is currently coordinating with the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities to place participants who have received certification through the Operating Engineers and the Center for Employment Education into the Training Special Program (TSP) for Federal Highway Administration and Federal Aviation Administration funded construction projects. This program will ensure entry-level training and employment opportunities on road and airport construction projects are made available to rural residents. By agreement with the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Aviation Administration, these TSP have been increased to meet the need for employment by rural residents and to meet the construction industry's need to replenish its labor force. The Department

of Transportation & Public Facilities also intends to use Equal Employment Opportunity provisions in its Federal Highway Administration and Federal Aviation Administration contracts to encourage greater employment of Alaska Natives on all of its projects.

"When the national profit margin for contractors averages less than two percent, contractors can realize a substantial cost savings by hiring local workers. Avoiding transportation and subsistence costs can mean the difference between winning or losing the job; between losing money or making money. The Denali Training Fund strategy to emphasize pre-employment training, aimed at preparation for lifetime employment, is enlightened and should be commended. The workers, contractors and villages all benefit from this strategy."

Dick Cattanach, President
Associated General Contractors



Neil Madros, Welder Trainee at Piledrivers & Drivers Local 2520.



A recent graduate of the CEE CDL program.



Ralph Takak, Welder Trainee at Piledrivers & Drivers Local 2520.

OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Denali Training Fund has also awarded grants to individual communities to meet a specialized need or to help train residents to work on currently funded or future construction, operations, and maintenance projects.

Elim

Thirty-nine residents were certified in all of the requirements of the National Center for Construction, Education and Research (NCCER) Core Curriculum, including basic safety, introduction to construction math, hand and power tool safety, and blueprint comprehension. There are a number of capital projects presently funded in Elim that will provide ample opportunity for employment of trainees.

Igiugig

Seven local residents and one each from New Stuyahok and Kokhanok trained on-site in Heavy Equipment Construction. All nine students received specialized training in the articulating-end dump truck, D6 dozer, loader, grader, 330 excavator, water service truck, fuel truck and pickup truck. They also learned how to clear and grub, survey, haul, grade, compact, and place culverts while building a trail in the village. All students are currently employed by Illiamna Lake Contractors on construction of Bureau of Indian Affairs funded roads.

Klawock

Thirty residents were trained in heavy equipment operations and water/wastewater operator training. Trainees will be employed by the City to work on major capital improvement projects scheduled over the next four to five years. They will also be available to work in adjacent communities on Prince of Wales Island.

Knik

Three residents received training in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (Hazwoper). These individuals will be employed on the cleanup of a former defense location, the Goose Bay Missile Site.

Tlingit and Haida

The Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska offered training to nine local residents from Wrangell, Yakutat and Angoon in Construction Worker/Laborer and Carpenter's Assistant. This construction training program was project specific for entry level employment in local construction projects.

Tanana Chiefs Conference

The primary mission of this program is training technicians for state certification as water and waste treatment plant operators in thirty-one Interior villages. The project also gives hands-on emergency assistance to operators. Once technicians are trained and have work experience in this field they are prime candidates for jobs in the local communities as wastewater plant operators.



Workers in the Igiugig Heavy Construction Training program.



Students participating in Hazardous Waste Training.

THE FUTURE

Despite the fact that over 300 rural residents have been trained in highly skilled technical trades over this first year, the continued need for the development of professional-level skills training remains critical in rural Alaska.

During this first year, the Denali Training Fund participated in regional funding summits. These summits will become an integral part of the delivery of Denali Training Fund programs throughout the state. It is the goal of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to participate in meetings in all of the major regional centers and publicize the training program in order to recruit interested communities and individuals. With the help of our partners, these regional funding summits will be the first step in a broad expansion of a very successful training enterprise.

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development is also planning to attend pre-bid conferences for many major Federal and State funded infrastructure projects. Potential contractors will be offered the opportunity to participate in the training of local residents in specific technical trades that will provide a fully trained, local workforce for their particular project. The Denali Training Fund will be available to cover direct training costs. By bringing together the contractors, participants, and training entities at the outset, skills development will be tailored to the specific needs of any given project.

In an effort to enhance current initiatives, the Denali Training Fund and the partner agencies are developing a system to track the skilled workforce in each community. The collection and tracking system will be expanded this coming year to provide a comprehensive data base of the available workforce to contractors, Federal and State agencies, and other interested parties, to further local hire in Alaska.

"Training has been, is and will remain a critical component of all Denali Commission funded projects. Sustainability demands that well trained local Alaskans build, operate, manage and maintain their rural facilities. Our Commissioners are committed to ensuring that our partners and funding sources recognize and support this simple reality."

Jeff Staser, Federal Co-Chair
Denali Commission



A student training in the Operating Engineers program.

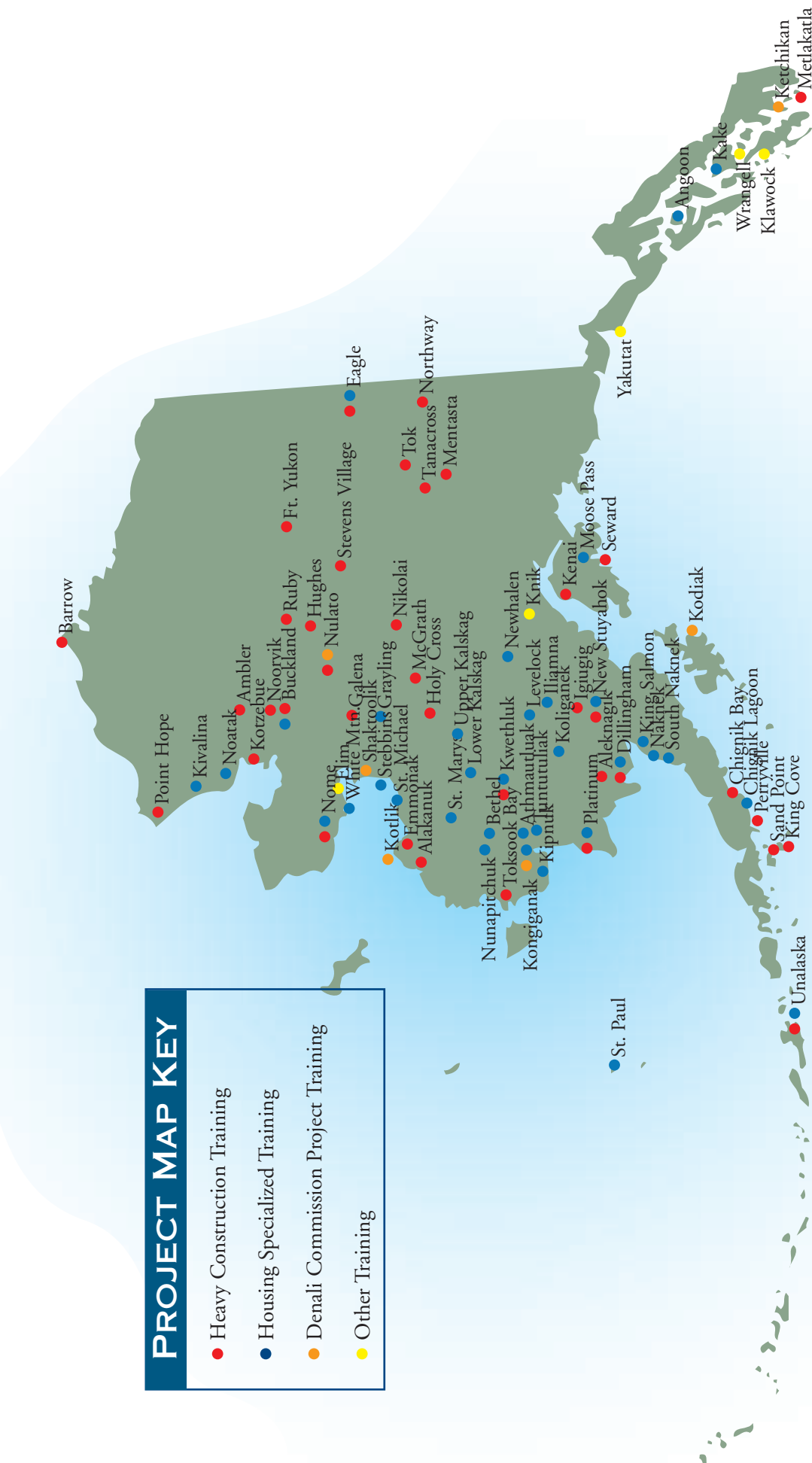


A Kongiganak welder trainee.



Nixon Lee participating in the CEE CDL program.

DENALI TRAINING FUND PROJECTS



DENALI TRAINING FUND PROJECTS

Community	Number of Participants	Type of Training
Alakanuk	6	4 Commercial Drivers Licenses-Class A; 2 Heavy Equipment Operators
Aleknagik	2	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Ambler	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Angoon	1	Carpentry Construction Framers
Atmautluak	2	Building Maintenance Repairer*
Barrow	2	Heavy Equipment Operators
Bethel	3	Building Maintenance Repairer
Buckland	5	Construction Retrofit Specialists
Buckland	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class C
Chignik Bay	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Chignik Lagoon	4	Building Maintenance Repairer*
Dillingham	5	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Dillingham	2	Building Maintenance Repairer; 1 registered as apprentice
Eagle	1	Commercial Drivers License;
Eagle	12	Building Maintenance Repairer*
Elim	39	NCCER Core Curriculum; Basic Safety Training
Emmonak	3	Heavy Equipment Operators
Fort Yukon	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Galena	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class C
Grayling	7	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Holy Cross	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Hughes	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Igiugig	7	Heavy Equipment Operators
Iliamna	1	Building Maintenance Repairer
Kake	11	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Kenai	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Ketchikan	4	Welders
King Cove	4	Commercial Drivers Licenses-Class A
King Salmon	10	Building Maintenance Repairers, 3 registered as apprentices 2 pending to register as apprentices
Kipnuk	5	Building Maintenance Repairers
Kivalina	3	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Klawock	30	Water-Wastewater Operators, Heavy Equipment Operators, Project Managers/Supervisors
Knik	3	Hazwopper/Asbestos Abatement
Kodiak	1	Welder
Kokhanok	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Koliganek	1	Building Maintenance Repairer
Kongiganak	2	Building Maintenance Repairers
Kongiganak	4	Welders
Kotlik	5	Welders
Kotzebue	9	7 Commercial Drivers Licenses-Class A, 2 Heavy Equipment Operators
Kwethluk	6	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Kwethluk	1	Commercial Drivers License-Off Systems Class A

● Heavy Construction Training ● Housing Specialized Training ● Denali Commission Project Training ● Other Training

* Participants enrolled at Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) in the Building Maintenance Repairer (BMR) correspondence course are approximately 50% complete.

DENALI TRAINING FUND PROJECTS

Community	Number of Participants	Type of Training
Levelock	2	Building Maintenance Repairers
Lower Kalskag	3	Building Maintenance Repairers
McGrath	4	1 Commercial Drivers License-Class A; 3 Heavy Equipment Operators
Mentasta	2	Heavy Equipment Operators
Metlakatla	3	2 Commercial Drivers Licenses-Class A; 1 Heavy Equipment Operator
Moose Pass	1	Building Maintenance Repairer*
Naknek	15	Building Maintenance Repairer, 2 registered as apprentices 6 pending to register as apprentices
Newhalen	1	Building Maintenance Repairer, pending to register as apprentice
New Stuyahok	2	Building Maintenance Repairers
New Stuyahok	2	1 Commercial Drivers Licenses; 1 Heavy Equipment Operator
Nikolai	2	Commercial Drivers Licenses, 1 Class A & 1 Off Systems Class A
Noatak	5	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Nome	4	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Nome	2	Heavy Equipment Operators
Noorvik	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Northway	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Nulato	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Nulato	1	Welder
Nunapitchuk	4	Building Maintenance Repairers
Perryville	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Platinum	2	Building Maintenance Repairers
Point Hope	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Ruby	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Saint Mary's	4	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Saint Michael	20	19 Building Maintenance Repairers, 5 registered as apprentices; 1 Building Maintenance Repairer*
Saint Paul	2	Building Maintenance Repairers*
Sand Point	2	Commercial Drivers Licenses-Class A
Seward	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Shaktoolik	1	Welder
South Naknek	2	Building Maintenance Repairers
Stebbins	1	Building Maintenance Repairer
Stevens Village	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Tanacross	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Tok	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class A
Toksook Bay	1	Heavy Equipment Operator
Tuntutuliak	4	Building Maintenance Repairers
Unalaska	1	Commercial Drivers License-Class C
Unalaska	1	Building Maintenance Repairer*
Upper Kalskag	1	Building Maintenance Repairer
White Mountain	10	Building Maintenance Repairers, 5 registered as apprentices
Wrangell	3	Carpentry Construction Framers
Yakutat	3	Carpentry Construction Framers

TOTAL 75 Communities, 331 Participants

● Heavy Construction Training ● Housing Specialized Training ● Denali Commission Project Training ● Other Training

* Participants enrolled at Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) in the Building Maintenance Repairer (BMR) correspondence course are approximately 50% complete.

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The application for the Denali Training Funds can be downloaded from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development website at: <http://www.labor.state.ak.us/esd/fundapp.pdf> (Adobe Acrobat Version) or <http://www.labor.state.ak.us/esd/fundapp.doc> (MS Word Version) and through the Denali Commission website at www.denali.gov.

DENALI TRAINING FUND

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